

Church of God Evangel



Our Eternal Habitation

BY H. B. RAMSEY
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2 Corinthians 5:1, "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."



IT IS GOD'S DESIRE that His children know something about the city which they will populate throughout the ceaseless ages of eternity. If this were not so, He would not have inspired the holy men of old to write so much about it in the Word of God.

I like to read about great cities, especially if I am planning to make a trip to them. London had never been so interesting to me as it was a few weeks before we made the trip there last June to attend the World Pentecostal Fellowship. I went down to the Travel Agency in Pasadena and secured some literature containing a map and some pictures of that great city. I would refer to the map and pictures quite frequently, because when I arrived in London I wanted to be at least a little familiar with some of the streets and buildings which I would be seeing. So, the Lord knowing that we would be interested in the city which will be our habitation, not for two weeks or a year, or ten years but throughout eternity, gave us some idea of its construction and size.

John tells us that this beautiful city is built foursquare. It is as wide as it is long and as high as it is wide. The length and breadth of it are equal to 12,000 furlongs, or 1,500 miles each way. John saw this great city coming down from God out of heaven to an eternal site on the new earth. The name of this city is NEW JERUSALEM. Why is the city called by that name? Jerusalem is the city which He loved above all others. It will be God's capital city and all the saints will dwell in it with Him. Instead of God dwelling in one place and His children in another as it is now, the situation will be changed. John heard a voice out of heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them, and be their God."

In Revelation 21:12 we read that the city has a WALL GREAT AND HIGH, AND HAS TWELVE GATES, AND AT THE TWELVE GATES TWELVE ANGELS, AND NAMES WRITTEN THEREON, WHICH ARE THE NAMES OF THE TWELVE TRIBES OF ISRAEL." Revelation 12:14 tells us, "And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb." The question has been asked through the past ages and is still in the minds of some today. Is that a city such as we see today? A real city? A material place? Or is it just a mystical place? The Bible speaks of it as a REAL CITY, and I accept it just as it is written. To me, it is just as real as any city we see today. We have some fine cities in this world, and the materials that go into some of the structures are plenty costly, but there is no comparison whatever with the construction of the great city of God.

Revelation 21:21 says, "And the street of the city was

pure gold, as it were transparent glass." Walking down the street of that city will be like walking on a great big looking glass—it will reflect your image to you. There will be no trash in the streets, no rubbish, no garbage cans, and no garbage trucks running there. The streets are pure gold! Why did God tell us of gold, and pearls, etc., if heaven were not a real city? Why did He give us the dimensions of the city, if it were not a real city? It is impossible to measure a city that is not real. He told us of the inhabitants of the city, but no one could dwell there, if it were not real. In Hebrews 11:10 we read, "(Abraham) looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." Just as the old Jerusalem is a real city, so will the New Jerusalem be real. Jesus said, "I go to prepare a place for you," not just a state of being, but a real place, a wonderful place.

WE are also told WHAT IS INSIDE THE CITY. Revelation 22:3, "The throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it." The New Jerusalem will be a wonderful place, for Christ dwells there; the throne of God is there. How wonderful it will be to look upon His face and to live with Him throughout the cycles of an endless eternity. How glorious it will be to see face to face the Man who died for us. D. L. Moody, when asked what he was going to do first when he got to heaven, replied, "I am going to sit down and take one long look at the Son of God for about five hundred years." It will be blessed, also, to tell Him to the best of our ability how we appreciate His love for us in giving His life a ransom for our sins. Oh yes, we will be praising Him throughout eternity for His redeeming blood. Jesus said, "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." He took particular concern relative to our final destination. He didn't save us to serve Him, then leave us to ourselves, but He saved us that He might bring us unto Himself. He wants us to be with Him in the mansions in the skies.

IT WILL ALSO BE A CITY OF DIVINE LIGHT. Revelation 21:23 tells us, "And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof." Revelation 22:5 says, "And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light." We shall have no need for Nature's lights—sun, moon, stars, etc.—for there will be no night there. Night is a symbol of evil. Most crimes are committed during the night hours. Those who are sick watch for the morning. "Weeping may endure for the night, but joy cometh in the morning." Think of the spiritual and physical darkness of this old world. Only a half of this world can be light at one time, but then His light will fill all the New Jerusalem at all times. As we see from the Scriptures that there will be no more night, let us notice some other "NO MORE'S," other

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The New Year

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IT IS THE PRACTICE of most business concerns to take inventory of their stock near the close of every old year. In so doing, they find the condition of their business—whether it is losing, gaining, or holding its own. As we stand on the threshold of this new year, it is good for the Christians to take inventory of their Christian experience and see how they stand with God. Paul tells us in the words of our text to examine ourselves; that is, to look closely at ourselves and ask questions of ourselves; see if we have grown in the grace and knowledge of the Lord as we should; find out if we are producing fruit for God.

In a Christmas message to his empire, in the early days of World War II, King George VI of England quoted the following words he had read somewhere but could not recall the source: "I stood at the portal of the new year and said to the keeper of the gate, 'Give me a light to guide my steps into the unknown.' He replied, 'Go out into the night and place your hand in the hand of God. That will be to you better than light and safer than a known way.'" These words are just as appropriate now as when they were spoken then. The road in the new year cannot be seen, yet, no matter how dark, there is nothing to fear if your hand is in God's hand. It is much better to travel in the dark with God than to travel in the light without Him.

As we have entered this new year, let us commit our ways to Him. The Bible begins with the words "In the beginning God." That is how it always should be. In the beginning of this new phase of our lives God must come first, if we are to make it a full, rich, and useful year for Him. The higher the hilltop on which we stand the longer will the shadow of our presence be. The higher we climb spiritually the farther will the shadow of our influence reach for Him. Those that would maintain intercourse with heaven must frequently withdraw from the things of this world. Never has this dark world needed the light of the man of God as it does today. By putting God first we can let our lives reach out in service for Him.

LET US EXAMINE our consecration. Romans 12:1, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Here we are asked to present our bodies a living sacrifice. The body in itself, apart from the soul and spirit, is helpless. Paul was thinking of the body as an implement of service. The soul and spirit which dwells within the body has no other means of expression than the body. It is the eye that looks, the ear that hears, the feet that move, the lips that speak, the hands which help—these all must be used in the word and work of God. Notice, we

2 Corinthians 13:5, "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?"

are not called on to die, but to live for God. If Christ gave Himself for us as a sacrifice in His death, surely we ought to give ourselves to Him as a sacrifice in our lives. God is not willing to give His orders to a life that is not upon His altar of service. God's plan for us is to live in absolute victory over sin by yielding ourselves to Him. God has made every provision for our victory and He places us as a conqueror over every power of the world, the flesh, and the devil.

The Christian must not be conformed to this world. He is not of the world, but has been chosen out of the world. If we would know the voice of God, we must turn a deaf ear to the things around us. The natural mind does not and cannot receive the things of God. How is your conduct in your everyday life? Are you exerting the right kind of influence on those you daily contact? It is easy to put on an act while at church once a week, but it is the everyday life that counts. Our influence is, no doubt, strongest for good or evil when we are the least conscious of it. One has said we influence others by what we are—not by what we try to be. It may be hard for us to realize that we influence others, yet it's true. A college girl on a train once heard a well-dressed, good-looking young man sitting ahead of her in the coach whistle that old hymn "Take Time to Be Holy." The fact that a young man like that would have the courage to whistle such a song on the train made an impression which lingered with her for years. It gave her more courage to set a Christian example.

ONE'S INFLUENCE lingers on, no telling how long. Many people are influenced for life by contact with some person in their youth. Henry Ward Beecher, the great preacher, tells how the influence of an elderly colored man lingered with him through life. Beecher's mother died when he was a child, so this elderly Negro servant put him to bed every night. Beecher said concerning him, "Every night he would set the candle at the head of my bed and he would pray and sing; I bear record that this praying made a profound impression upon my mind. I thought, 'How that man does enjoy it!' I gained more of the idea of the desirableness of prayer from that man than I ever did from my father and mother. This poor man led me to see that there should be real overflowing gladness and thanksgiving in prayer."

H. M. Stanley, the well-known explorer, was sent by an American newspaper to find David Livingstone when he was reported lost in Africa. After meeting and being with Livingstone, Stanley testified, "When I saw that unwearied patience, that unflagging zeal, those enlightened sons of Africa, I became a Christian by his side, although he never spoke a word to me about it."

Jesus said the Christian is the salt of the earth and the

light of the world. If we fail to have that salty flavor and let our lights from God grow dim, we shall be a hindrance instead of a help for the kingdom of God. Paul tells us in Ephesians 5:15, 16, "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." This means that we should walk cautiously and carefully, as wise sons of God, in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation. How easy it is for the human being to become self-boastful and proud. That spirit of pride will hinder anyone from exerting a godly influence.

"Watch yourself. Any man can spoil himself for himself. He can allow himself to grow so sensitive that he lives in constant pain. He can nurse his grudges until they are an intolerable burden. He can think himself insulted until he is apt to be. He can believe the world is against him until it is. He can imagine troubles until they are real. He can hold so many under suspicion that no one believes in him. He can insult his friends until they are no longer friends. He can think himself so important that no one else does. He can have such a good opinion of himself that no one else enjoys his friendship. He can become so wrapped up in himself that he becomes very small."—Selected.

LET US EXAMINE our love. There is a call to a holy love. Romans 12:9, "Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good." 1 John 3:18, ". . . let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth." Love is God's chief gift to His children. It is by love that we are to conquer all evil and accomplish all good, one toward another. It is love that suffers long and is kind. It is love that beareth all things and endureth all things. No wonder the Christian is told to walk in love. God showed His love by giving His Son as a sacrifice to a lost world. The Son showed His love by being willing to come to earth and offer Himself as man's substitute. How great the love of God! No man is able to measure the extent of His love. If God so loved us, we ought to love one another. You may say, "It is easy to love someone who is kind and thoughtful of you," but the love of God reaches farther than that—He loves the vile, the outcast, and every sinner! As Christians, be sure to direct the love God has given you toward all men, for this is pleasing to God.

As one faces the new year, there are usually two dominant things that confront the thoughtful: What about the year that has passed? What about the new year that has begun? If we were to ask ourselves if we were satisfied with the past year, perhaps all would say, "No." Most of us would say that we wish we had done more for God. We cannot go back over the past year; we cannot regain the lost opportunities—time marches on—but let us determine now to meet the new year ahead by leaning upon God and being led by His Spirit. This will mean a full surrender and prompt obedience to Him. There is no great measure of joy to be found in a half-hearted Christian experience. There is but one way to find fulness of joy, and that is by surrendering our all to Him. This might mean the giving up of loved ones or possessions; yet these things are nothing compared to the smile of God upon a life. F. B. Meyer once said, "If we never find our path dipping into the sunless valley, we may seriously question whether we have not missed our way to the Celestial City. The road to the Mount of Ascension always passes through the Garden of Gethsemane, over the steep ascent

of Calvary, then down into the Garden of the Grave." Many times God allows things to come our way so that we may learn things in His great school of experience. When the refiner sees his face reflected in the molten metal, he knows the refining process is finished. When trials come our way, God may be working out a refining process in our lives. You can safely trust God to bring out the hidden beauty in your life. He may do it through sorrow and suffering, but how great the spiritual beauty when His will is done!

PAUL SAID that after you examine yourself to prove your own self. We should resolve in this new year to believe the Bible is God's Word and that it should be studied as our guide and light. The Psalmist said, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my pathway." How marvelously true this utterance is! There is no other book that compares with the Bible. It fits all nations and all classes of people. Many consider the Bible in grave danger, but it has survived thus far and it will continue to do so. We should love the Word of God, for it is God speaking to us from the pens of holy men of old. History tells us there was a time when even a few pages from the Bible were treasured as a rare possession. The first copies of the Scriptures were very expensive and only a few persons could afford to buy them. In his autobiography, Benjamin Franklin tells how one of his ancestors, living in England in Queen Mary's reign, hid his Bible by fastening it with strips of tape on the underside of a stool. When he wished to read it, he placed the stool upon his knees and turned the pages under the tape as he read them. During the reading, one of the children would stand watch at the door to give the alarm if anyone approached. In case anyone came near, the stool was quickly set on its feet so that nothing of the Bible could be seen. Thus the family was able to keep its precious Bible while others were seized and destroyed. Frequently, enemies suspecting a family of possessing a Bible would set fire to a house to make sure the Book was burned.

At one time, in England, it was at the risk of a person's life to listen to the reading of the Bible. During this period, a large Bible was chained to a pillar in the crypt of old St. Paul's church in London. Here people assembled to hear its pages read. A man by the name of Porter was chosen to do the reading because he could read well and clearly. At first not much attention was paid by the authorities to these gatherings, but eventually so many people gathered for the readings that the authorities arrested Porter for disturbing the peace. He was thrown into prison and treated so cruelly that he died in eight days.

How dearly we should love and treasure the privilege of owning a Bible and being able to read it undisturbed. The Bible contains our map of life. Eternal life and death are pointed out for us. We are told to walk the narrow way and shun the broad way. Heaven and hell are set before us. The rewards of the redeemed and the judgments of the wicked are described. How we should cherish the glorious Word! Someone has truthfully said, "Americans who would not allow a king or government to close the Bible allow their own folly to seal its pages and rob them of the blessings it contains."

IN THIS NEW YEAR let us watch our prayer life. Remember, it is the effectual, fervent prayer of the righteous man that availeth much. If we grow lean in our

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THE SAVING LOOK

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Isaiah 45:22, "Look unto me, and be saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else."

IT HAS BEEN SAID that "the greatest truths are the simplest." Here is stated, in language that is beautiful, yet plain and unmistakable, God's plan for the salvation of lost mankind. Man in his search for God too often looks for the majestic, the high and exalted, overlooking God's exhortation, "Look and be saved." Spurgeon, in his search for liberty from sin and relief from the impending judgments of God, visited many churches and listened to many sermons that were eloquent. Yet, it remained for a man uneducated and untaught in theology to point him to the means of God's saving power in the language of the text. To the hopeless, the unsaved, the downcast, the restless, I would cry aloud to you in your search for help, "Look and live." No need for rituals beyond human understanding, and muttered incantations which border on the mystic. Just turn your eyes to the Christ of Calvary and behold Him in His sufferings on Calvary's cross. Such a look will erase from your heart the power of sin, and give you the peace of mind for which you are searching. His death on the cross, and the precious blood He spilled for your redemption, is God's love letter to you. Look and be saved.

All men everywhere need to look. God thus implied when He said, "Look unto me, all ye ends of the earth." This is not the first time God has exhorted men to look and live. In the history of Israel, while journeying in the wilderness, because of their complaining against God and His servant, fiery serpents were sent among the people. The bite of the serpent causes pain and death. God gave a remedy that was simple and effective. A brazen serpent was placed upon a pole for all to look upon. Those who looked were immediately healed and lived. Many, however, felt the plan too ridiculous for sensible men to accept, and because of their failure to look, died. Just a simple look to the serpent gave the relief needed in that hour.

Man today has been bitten by something more deadly than a fiery serpent. The bite of sin is far more deadly than the bite of the most poisonous snake. There is a remedy that cures. "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life," John 3:14, 15. Two thousand years ago, on a rugged hill called Calvary, a cure was placed on a rough cross. Its healing virtue is efficacious in this modern scientific age, and, praise God, one may look today and feel the effects of the saving look. I would that you who are unsaved would resolve this moment with Micah, "Therefore I will look unto the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation."

THE HISTORY of all mankind is largely a record of his need for such a saving look. The blight of sin is everywhere, and the plague is as haunting as leprosy. How pithy and terse is the charge of God against

us, when in His Word it is written, "For we have before proved, both Jew and Gentile, that they are all under sin"; "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God"; "The scripture hath concluded all under sin"; and, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." All are perishing and need this saving look, therefore God hath said, "Look unto me, all ye ends of the earth." Wherever you are and whoever you are, God invites you to look and live. Your station in life will not save you in the hour of peril or need; your influence with the high and mighty will be of no avail when the pangs of death seize your soul, and the poison of sin penetrates to the vitals. Your knowledge or ignorance will not help in that crucial hour. The only thing that will count is the look of faith to the old rugged cross. "Turn your eyes unto Jesus; look full in His wonderful face," and in that look you will find the saving power that changes a man from one dead in trespasses and sin to a life of fulness and eternal life with the Lord of glory. O dying man, look and live. You who are perishing beneath the angry waves of life's tempestuous sea, LOOK; there is hope and salvation in that look to God. As Peter was sinking in the waves, he looked to the Master of the winds and waves, and the hand was stretched forth to save. If sin has you down, and the weight of judgment is hounding your waking hours; if peace and contentment has eluded your search, and the hounds of hell are dogging your every step, LOOK TO THE LAMB OF GOD, for in that look there is salvation and peace beyond compare.

It is futile to look elsewhere for salvation. God hath said, "For I am God, and there is NONE else." Every hope is excluded except God. Man has long tried to settle his problem of sinfulness by his own ideas of what is just and good, but there is "none else." Man has become skilled in the arts. He can search the starry heavens and predict with accuracy the time of eclipses and the movement of the stars. He has delved into the mysteries of the atom and unlocked the secret of its power. He has effected cures for many maladies of the world, and succeeded in extending the span of human life upon the earth. He has designed and built mammoth structures that have amazed the world, and his engineering skill has spanned great rivers, and harnessed the powers of turbulent streams for the benefit of humanity, but with all of his ingenuity he cannot save one immortal soul from perishing. ONLY God can save, and that look to God will save from sin's blighting effect and terrible consequence.

THE BLOOD of animals flowed in endless streams from the sacrificial altars of penitent Israel. The bleat of the innocent lamb sounded in the courtyard as it was led to the altar for the sins of humanity. The cooing of the turtle doves and the pigeons haunted the ears of the seekers who crowded the courts of the tabernacle seeking relief from sin's oppressive burden. The bellowing of the bullock as it was dragged protestingly to the place of sacrifice spoke volubly of man's search for peace and contentment that salvation gives. Yet, it was not possible

for any of these things to save mankind, "for it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins"; "For I am God, and there is NONE else." So, look and be saved. He is the only hope of all the world, and He graciously invites us to look to Him. "If you from sin are longing to be free, look to the Lamb of God." You have tried the remedies offered you, and they have failed. You have depended on your works to bring about peace, but they have brought only bitter disappointment. Your efforts at reformation have resulted in despair, but if you will look to God, the salvation for which long you have sought will fill your heart and mind through Christ Jesus.

What a gracious assurance is ours in this blessed promise from the lips of God through His prophet. God is saying in effect, "Look unto me, and you will be saved." To many this idea will appear foolish, but who are we to question what God hath said? Since He is God, it is His prerogative to declare what method of salvation He chooses to save mankind, and, however foolish it may seem, if God says we are saved by looking, we are saved.

By looking to Him we acknowledge complete abandonment of all other grounds or hope. "On Christ, the Solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand." Despite voices to the contrary, and despite the ridicule of the liberals and modernists who trust in vain philosophies, it is wisdom to look to God exclusively, for He has promised salvation for all who look. Look to Him earnestly, for life is fleeting and will soon be over. It is life only for those who look, therefore look earnestly.

LOOK—because the terms of salvation are simple. Who could ask for a way that is easier, or a plan that is more effective? Just one look at the Lord of glory, and the things of earth grow dim, and eternity becomes all-important. If you were bidden to perform a difficult task to obtain salvation, you would gladly consent. God has only required you to look and receive salvation. The captain who was afflicted with the dread disease of leprosy was bidden to do a simple thing—just bathe in the waters of the river, and he would be clean. Simple, but effective! I challenge you, my unsaved friend, "look—and be ye saved."

Look—because the blessings one will receive by looking are great. There is nothing greater than forgiveness of sins, so look. Look—for He offers to you, dying man, life everlasting. Look—because you will be saved from the awful penalty of sin. "The wages of sin is death," but a look saves you from death's endless night. Look—for in looking you will be saved from the power of sin. The tyrannical hold of sin upon your life will be voided by looking to the One who gives liberty from such a hold. Look—and "the Spirit of the Lord will come upon thee and thou shalt . . . be turned into another man." Look—"and your sins and iniquities will I remember no more." Look—"though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow." Look—for He offers us sonship with the Eternal, and a mansion in glory.

Look—for if we fail to look, we shall die in our sins. My friend, if you are unsaved today, it is not God's fault, but yours, because, "ye have not looked unto the Maker," Isaiah 22:11. "But they look not unto the Holy One in Israel, neither seek the Lord," Isaiah 31:1. For a happy life in this world, "Look and be saved." For bliss in the ages to come, "Look unto me, all ye ends of the earth, and be saved: for I am God, and there is none else."

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things that will be missing in our eternal habitation. It is very interesting to me to know that the things which have caused pain, sorrow, and trouble on earth will never cross the portals of heaven.

We find in Revelation 22:3 that "there shall be NO MORE CURSE." Sin brought a curse upon the earth and mankind, but there will be no more sin and no more curse in the New Jerusalem. There will be no tragedies, no murders, no suicides, no war, or anything to trouble us. This old world is under the curse of sin. Just when everything seems to be going lovely, a crisis comes and no one can do anything about it. But, thanks be unto God, in that great city there will be no more curse!

There shall be NO MORE TEARS. God will take His great hand and wipe every tear from our eyes. We shall never shed another tear throughout eternity.

There will be NO MORE SORROW. This life is filled with sorrow. It has its origin in the same place as death: sin causes both.

There shall be NO MORE PAIN. All the suffering of those who are children of God is just in this present world. Jesus suffered pain that we might be without it in eternity.

There shall be NO MORE DEATH. Death sentence was passed upon all humanity when Adam and Eve sinned, but, thanks be unto God, there will be no crepe on the doors of heaven and no graves on the hillsides of glory. Paul tells us that the last enemy Christ shall destroy is death. The victory is ours; our Master said, "Because I live ye shall live also." I love that precious verse which assures us "there shall be no more pain: for the former things are passed away," and it will be as the song we used to sing said,

*"Death shall never knock on heaven's doors,
There will be no dying there;
Pain and sorrow will be felt no more,
There'll be joy beyond compare;
No more open graves, no sad good-byes,
They'll be gone forevermore,
For the hand of death up in Paradise
Never knocks on heaven's door."*

MY DESIRE IS the same as yours, I want to go to heaven. How glorious it will be to see this city never built by human hands, never touched with the decay of time; a city whose inhabitants no census has ever numbered; a city of eternal peace and joy, that has never known the rush and tides of business, or ever been burdened with a funeral procession; a city without grief, pain, death, or tomb; a city where tears are never known and where sorrow is an unknown and excluded stranger; a city where eternal day reigns supreme and where night and darkness never ventures.

Are you, my friend, preparing and looking for this city of God? You must prepare if you ever expect to be there. The way to the city is the way of the cross. The way to this city is through Jesus Christ your Saviour. Will you leave this land by a plunge into the dark, an entrance into a night of eternal terror, eternal despair, eternal regret, and eternal loss? Or will your earthly pilgrimage end in a glorious home-coming, a victorious, delightful entry into the city of God?



St. Paul's Last Words

By W. J. MILLIGAN, Pastor, Harrisburg, Illinois

The Father

"But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry," 2 Timothy 4:5.



HAT IS WHAT PAUL SAID to Timothy. Then he added, "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." In the verse which we read as a text, Paul said four things to Timothy. These words we might denominate his dying words—the last words of one of the greatest men God ever made. I have been frequently touched by reading the words of Paul to Timothy. I have seen the fatherly interest and the tender, watchful care that Paul bestowed upon Timothy, his own son in the gospel. And now in their last conversation (having preached, labored, eaten, and walked together for the last time, and with all earthly association and communication about to be cut off forever and Paul about to pass to his reward) Paul has something to say to Timothy.

How the last words of a dying neighbor impress us! How the last words of a good father fasten themselves upon us! How the last words of a good mother are cherished by us! We can forget a thousand things Father and Mother said to us during their lifetime, but their last words linger with us like the memory of a pleasant dream. Just so do the last words to Timothy and through Timothy to us! Oh, how much Paul compassed in these last words!

The first admonition he gave to Timothy was this: "Watch thou in all things." If there ever was a day in the world's history when the people of God ought to be vigilant and watchful, it is now. This watchful spirit is the sentinel of the soul—the sentinel on the outpost. We are commanded to be vigilant, to be watchful, because our adversary, the devil, is going about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. We are commanded

to be vigilant, to be watchful, because our adversary, the devil, is going about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. We are commanded to be vigilant and watchful, because we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against powers and principalities and spiritual wickedness in high places. When danger was imminent and the enemy was nearby, George Washington would say, "Put no one but Americans on the outpost tonight." Now while the enemy surrounds us on all sides and presses upon us from every direction, it is best that we put none but the vigilant souls upon the watchtower, and that we put the sentinels that belong to our own souls on the outposts, the most faithful ones.

It is death for a sentinel to sleep at his post. Do you wonder why they are so severe on poor fellows for going to sleep out on their posts? I'll tell you why. The safety, the peace, the lives of 60,000 men are in the hands of that sentinel out there on the outpost, and for him to go to sleep on post duty means that the enemy could charge upon a camp of sleeping soldiers and butcher them in their bunks. No wonder the general says to his sentinel on duty, "It is death to go to sleep on the outpost there." Another thing, the way God talks to us, it is mighty near death to you and me, if we ever forget to obey the text and fail to be watchful.

ANOTHER scriptural term for this same expression or thought is "walk circumspectly." The word "circumspectly" is a Latin-derived word, a compound word. It means "looking around you." The Indian who walked in the primeval forests of this country, inhabited by all kinds of wild beasts and reptiles, walked with perfect safety, because he walked circumspectly. The Indian bade his squaw and children good-bye in the morning and went out into the forests inhabited by wild beasts and reptiles, but they did not fear for his safety. They knew that if the enemy should approach him from the right, he would see him, from the left, he would see him, from the rear, his keen sense of hearing and seeing would detect him. If a wild beast was crouched on a limb above his pathway, he would see him. If a hissing serpent was underneath on his pathway, he would see him. The Indian walked in perfect safety, because he walked circumspectly! A man who walks along looking ahead of him is not walking circumspectly. If he looks on both sides, in front, and to the rear, he is not walking circumspectly. But if he looks above, beneath, in front, to the right, to the left, to the rear, and in walking looks in every direction, then he is walking circumspectly.

We do not know from what direction the enemy may attack us. We do not know if he will attack from the front, or the rear; he may come from either side or from the back or front. We shall obey the Scriptures and walk

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The REVEREND W. J. MILLIGAN is one of the pioneer Church of God preachers, and did much outstanding work in Illinois and Missouri. He has at various times served as state overseer, pastor and evangelist. At the present he is pastor of the Harrisburg, Ill.



The Minutia

By JOSEPH L. MILLIGAN, Pastor, Sumiton, Alabama

The Son

Zechariah 4:10a, "For who hath despised the day of SMALL THINGS?"

WHILE PERUSING A NEWSPAPER recently, my eyes fell upon an article that told of a giant plane crashing to the earth, killing a score of passengers and pilots. An investigation was immediately conducted in an effort to determine the cause of the mischance, and it was discovered that a cotter pin had slipped, thus precipitating the tremendous craft to earth and its demolition, and plummeting twenty souls into "another world." A cotter pin? Could a thing so TRIVIAL and so inexpensive be of such importance? Could an apparently worthless instrument, of such small dimensions, wrestle this monster of the air to earth and utterly destroy it? A plane worth thousands of dollars destroyed by a little cotter pin? Twenty souls, worth infinitely more than twenty worlds, driven from their tabernacles of flesh and blood into the boundless reaches of eternity by a tiny piece of steel? Unbelievable!! but true! I threw down the paper and the reins of the mind as God began to drive home to my heart the awful truth of this theme. My heart burned with inspiration as the Holy Spirit made clear to me that the minutest things are part of the magnitude. We try to reach out into infinitude with this limited mind, and our poor brains reel and stagger back to the terrestrial, when actually infinity is made up of infinitesimals.

Acts that were thought to be inconsequential, have caused thousands of innocent people to surrender their lives. In September, 1655, an Indian squaw was walking leisurely one day by an orchard, which belonged to Hendrick van Dyck, a Dutchman. His orchard then stood on what is now Broadway and Rector Street corner in New York City. The Indian noticed that his trees were heavy with appetizing fruit, and, driven by pangs of hunger, crept under the fence and stole a peach. The old Dutchman, who had been having a lot of trouble with thieves before, happened to be on guard that day. As he watched the departing figure, he raised his gun and fired away.

inois, Church of God. He is the father of two minister sons—Joseph and Paul.

One of his greatest joys is no doubt the phenomenal rise of his son Joseph as a minister, pastor at Sumiton, Alabama.

The Indian squaw fell dead with slugs all through her body. The bloody news traveled with lightning speed to the various tribes of Indians on the west bank of the Hudson River. Around every tent and wigwam could be seen men, women, and children daubing on war paint and sharpening their tomahawks. The banks of the Hudson reverberated with the Indian war cry. Savages poured out of the surrounding forests, anxious to avenge the murder even with the payment of life. Within a period of hours, 2,000 warriors were gathered and ready for battle. They forded the river and landed on Manhattan Island, expecting to find the city unarmed, but, to their surprise, found it prepared for conflict. And then, characteristic of the Indian, they retreated to return at night, for the Indian prefers easy conquest rather than pay so dearly for victory. When darkness had fallen, they pounced upon New York with tomahawks in hand, and rushed up and down Broadway. They were finally beaten back, but when the battle was over, the streets were strewed with dead Dutchmen, and amongst the casualty list appeared the name of Hendrick van Dyck, who, incidentally, was the first white man killed in the war. Is the death of these people the only aftermath of the peach theft? No. This war so weakened the Dutch that the English easily overcame them, and changed the name of their possession from New Amsterdam to New York. Think long on this: the stealing of a peach changed the destiny of our nation.

ANOTHER WAR which occurred in the 13th century had such a peculiar beginning. It is told that one day two little boys were playing together, when one grew angry and, childlike, slapped the other in the face. The little boy, whose name was Gerl, ran home crying, and told his father all that had happened. The other little boy, whose name was Lore, went home and confessed his wrong to his father. The father sensed the seriousness of the act and, after drilling the boy with an apology that he felt would be acceptable to the offended boy's father, sent the boy to offer his humble story. But instead of accepting the apology, Gerl's father felt that the insult could be washed away only by the shedding of infantile blood, so he seized the little fellow and mercilessly cut off the right hand that had slapped his son's face and sent him home with blood pouring from the stub. Retaliation followed, quite naturally. The citizens of Italy began to line up on either side of the dispute, and it fermented and spread until ALL OF ITALY AND EVEN FRANCE was engaged in the war. Just the slapping of a boy's face cost thousands of lives. Uncanny, but factual!

History records that a loose and thoughtless statement of Frederick the Great concerning a worthless woman brought on the Seven Years' War. The blunder of George Grenville led to the Revolutionary War and America's independence. The breaking of an egg led to an Indian war

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ST. PAUL'S LAST WORDS

(Continued from page 8)

circumspectly, looking around both ways. We must not walk looking only both ways and outward, but we must also look within. The devil is a cunning old enemy. Oh, how cunning he is! but by the grace of God we can conquer the devil. This old world has its ten thousand things to attract and seduce us, but the grace of God is sufficient, and we can conquer the world. The Bible says, "Good Lord, deliver me from myself."

Much of our trouble is not on the outside at all; it is on the inside. You can go out in the world as much as you please, but you had better mind how you get the world into you. Sometimes we mislocate things, like the good old brother who called on Bishop Wightman. The bishop had been holding conference. A good old brother came up to his room one day and said to him, "I haven't been to my church in two years. I haven't been out at all in that time." "Well," said the bishop, "why is that, Brother?" "Why," said he, "they have the devil right behind the pulpit," he said. "Yes, they have. Just as soon as I walk into the church the first thing I see is the devil right behind the pulpit." The bishop said, "Brother, what do you mean? It's the organ they've got in there. Well, I guess when you go into the church the devil is in there sure enough, but you don't locate him right. He is not there behind the pulpit, but he's in you. You are dislocating things. There's the trouble."

Watch! Your trouble, if rightly located, is within and not without you. I would rather fight a thousand enemies outside the fort than to fight one enemy inside the fort. There is more danger inside the fort.

LET US SEE what we have inside to betray us: Our neglect to pray, neglect to read the Bible, neglect to walk uprightly for God, neglect to Christian duty. The person that allows the spirit of neglect to remain in him does so at the cost of his soul. Take a man who has prayed every night and morning with his family. Get him to leave prayer off at night, or off in the morning, for instance. Just let him neglect it a time or two, and the next thing that will happen is that he will quit it altogether. He will not want to pray at all. Just let a man neglect to read his Bible for a few days; he'll get so he won't want to look at his Bible at all. Oh, the spirit of neglect has cost millions of souls!

You let a man begin to neglect his business—it goes right down. Let a man begin to neglect his religion—it goes down. Just let the church members begin to neglect going to prayer meeting—they soon go right down to zero. Let the members fail to pay their tithes—they soon go down.

Then, we will watch not only the spirit of neglect that might take possession of us, but we will watch our tongues. Oh me! these tongues of ours give more trouble than anything and everything else in the world. It isn't what we do, but what we say that gets us in trouble most every time. We will watch our tongues. Oh, if we just had some way of guarding every word we utter, what a grand thing it would be!

We will watch our temper. Do you know where we get the word "temper"? We get it from the blacksmith's shop. The blacksmith is shaping an ax and upsetting the blade of it. He heats the blade again and pushes it down into the water. Then he takes it out, watches it take its color, and again pushes it into the water and takes it out. Di-

rectly he hands it to the farmer and says, "I think that is tempered, but I don't know." He tells the farmer how to test it, so the farmer does as he has instructed him. He takes it to the woods and strikes it a few times in a knotty pine log. It becomes full of notches, and the edge is all turned and gone. He takes it back to the blacksmith, who puts it back in the fire and tests it. When the owner takes it out to the log again and uses it, its edge remains all right, so he says, "The edge is perfect." That is where we get our idea of temper. I like temper, but I want it to be managed right. The best way I ever managed my temper was to clinch my teeth together and not let my tongue run a bit. The tongue is a sort of revolving fan to the fire, and the first time you let your tongue go, you are gone. Did you ever try clinching down on your teeth to stop your tongue when you were about to get mad? If you'll do it, you'll be astonished.

We will watch our temper. We will watch our tongues. We will watch within. We will watch without. We will watch vigilantly. We won't be surprised by anything. We are going to see our enemy approach; we are going to watch him as he comes; we are going to meet him as he comes.

The hardest thing in the world to do is endure afflictions. Humanity wants to fight back, kick back, and talk back. I have felt that way many times, but never gave way to my feelings. The best way is to stand and hold out, letting your enemy kick himself to death. He will soon do it, if you will hold right still! A soldier in the last war said, "One of the hardest things I had to do was to lie still under fire."

Paul tells us to manifest and possess always this watchful, vigilant spirit, then he says, "Endure afflictions." It is one thing to do the will of God and quite another thing to suffer the will of God. Almost anybody is willing to be a hammer and strike for God, but very few people are willing to be an anvil and be struck for God. Almost anybody is willing to go out and knock somebody down for God, but are we willing to be knocked down for God? That is the important question. Are we willing to endure hardness? Are we willing to suffer persecutions? Yes, are we willing to suffer for God who gave His life for us, and bear whatever is sent upon us? I tell you, there is nothing like afflictions. Many times a man grows careless, godless, and worldly, and the Lord tries every fair means of touching and moving him. Finally, he becomes sick and the doctor is called. He hears the doctor and his wife whispering outside the door. He can see his wife's lip quiver as she wipes her tears away. He hears the doctor say, "You can prepare for the worst." Then he begins to pray and call on God to take him back into the fold. 2 Corinthians 4:17, "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." Oh, how much goodness is in the Lord! He won't let us be lost until He has done His very best on us. Take almost any fellow over a coffin a time or two, then turn him loose and he will hit the ground running every time. He will do better.

Paul next says, "Do the work of an evangelist." You say, "That had reference just to Timothy; that does not have reference to us at all." Did you know that God intends, when a person is saved, for that person to become a gospel propagandist? Did you ever think of that? The trouble is, the world has been turned over to us preachers, who are a sorry set, and we are not half running it, God

knows, but I suppose we are doing the best we can with the material on hand. There is some hickory the Lord Himself could not make an ax handle out of unless He made the hickory over. We preachers are good, clever men and do the best we can, but God never intended that the world should be handed over to us. He intended that every converted man or woman should be a preacher, in a sense, going out and doing work as an evangelist. Suppose every member of the Church this year would say, "God helping me, I will win some soul for Christ." Our membership would be doubled, if the promise was kept.

I have worked ever since I became a Christian, and the happiest moments of my life have been the moments when I have seen men's souls given to Christ. The one, earnest prayer of my life has been, "God, help me to help souls to Christ." If I gather souls to Christ, how grand that is. How many of us, if we were to die right now and go to heaven, would wear a starless crown forever? As we journey through life, may God help us to gather souls for Him.

Paul said, "Make full proof of thy ministry." I do love to see a soul work in earnest for Christ, and work on until the work is completed, and then shout over the results.

THE MINUTIA

(Continued from page 9)

in America. The dispute over the size of a window led to a Nine Years' War that devastated all Europe. Can these things be? Every preacher has used the illustration which tells of a \$500,000 ship being wrecked by a bit of a broken knife blade distracting the ship's compass and thus throwing the ship off course.

A preacher was awakened one night to find his parsonage in Epworth, England, a burning inferno. He ran frantically from room to room to carry his eight children to safety. He counted them to find that seven were saved, but there was one remaining. Only one. One little boy! Would there be such a loss if that boy were not saved? Cries were heard emanating from the top story of the building, and two peasants formed a human ladder, one standing on the shoulders of the other. They suffered the intense heat while the boy scampered down their backs. Was it a little thing to save that boy? If you are prone to think so, ask all the Methodists on either side of the ocean, for that boy was John Wesley, the founder of Methodism.

One day another preacher was being hounded from street to street in the beautiful city of Damascus. The mob was furious and even the civil authorities and policemen joined in the search. They desired to hang Paul's head on the city gate. Paul, who realized his mission was not completed, and who proved many times over in his life to be anything but a coward, eluded the assassins and hid in the house of one of the Christians. Finally, they discovered his hideout and began pounding on the door, demanding Paul be surrendered to them. But the keeper of the house took a good strong basket and a good stout rope and let Paul down in the basket over the wall. Paul escaped to commence his missionary tour, which is still yielding glorious harvests. How much depended on so little!! Everything depended on the strength of that rope and the basket. What loss would Christianity have suffered if the rope had snapped and Paul's life had been dashed out? His work in Pamphyllia, Cappadocia, Galatia,

Macedonia, and other places could not have been accomplished. All his Pauline Epistles could not have been given. His triumphant beheading, the story of which has inspired myriads in time of adversity, could not have transpired. Felix would not have trembled. The Philippian jailer would not have been so gloriously converted. Yea, thousands of souls would have been lost, perhaps, if Paul's life had not been preserved by the careful tying of a knot. Would it not be profitable, then, in our lives if we take care and take the necessary time to do things well? Since so many things are dependent on our deeds and the conscientious performance of our obligations, how can we live so recklessly and throw idle words promiscuously?

WHEN GOD'S PEOPLE were in bondage and were travailing to be delivered, it seemed that the divine plans would be frustrated by the king's decree to murder all the male infants, for in that massacre God's chosen vessel, Moses, would be slain. But note the steps taken in carrying out God's will for the preservation of the infant's life. Wouldn't you think that there would have come a war ship, weighing several thousand tons, plowing up the river Nile to protect the child? Could not armies have been mustered and marched to the river bank for the child's defense? But no! The child was simply placed in a little basket, possibly made waterproof with a coat of bitumen, and placed in the bulrushes along the river's brink. 'Twas a little thing. Why should this story be told with such enthusiasm thousands of years later? It was because God was in the minutest details of the affair. As another has queried, "What if some crocodile should espy the sleeping child, silently glide over to the strange craft, and with one bite crunch the life out of the little fellow? Or what if some of the cattle wading in for a drink should cause the waters to upset it?" Never fear, friend; when God is for us, none can be against us. He throws an impregnable wall around His children. Blessed be God! Satan may threaten harm and the enemy may come in like a great flood, but with the deluge of trouble God will raise up a standard against the evil one. He has promised to "rebuke the devourer for your sakes." They who have their feet firmly founded on the Eternal Rock of Ages shall never be put to confusion. How could harm come to the infant lawgiver? Surrounding that little floating crib were legions of angels with drawn swords, anxious to battle against hell's forces. The movement of one imp of hell with the intent of capsizing the mysterious little bark would have enraged all heaven and marshaled limitless powers in an instant. His eye that runs constantly to and fro through the earth must have been focused directly upon the scene. Yes, it was a little thing, but of what import!

Will not every backslider confess that the real cause of his departing from the faith was not the flagrant, overt sin for which he has been disfellowshipped from religious circles, but was rather the little sins? The "little foxes" seem to know just where to nibble so as to spoil the vine. They don't eat the vine; rather, they nip it here and there, a sure way to bring on destruction. I read of a group of thieves who always took with them a little boy who could easily be lifted to the windows and who would go through the windows and open the doors for the hardened renegades to enter and plunder. Yonder is a home where discouragement hovers low over the members of the family. The faithful pastor, who has been quite disturbed over their nonattendance in the church services,

enters the door. He talks of the weather, of the current news items of the secular, then eventually gets around to discuss the spiritual. He naturally seeks to determine the reason for the family's discouragement. The head of the family possibly blushes and offers several reasons, apparently avoiding the truth. He blames others in the church, he blames the church officials, and may even have the courage to blame the pastor to his face, but when the real pith of the matter is found, the "little offences" paved the way for the greater ones. They used little "no-harms" as excuses to stay home from church, and then step by step they descended to their low spiritual ebb. Every social worker and every pastor, without exception, has met with this same problem.

IN FANCY, I visit a penal institution where are imprisoned hundreds of souls. As I view the incarcerated, my soul quakes with emotion, and I decide to converse with one who seems to be cold and heartless. His hair is disheveled; his mouth is drawn tight with the cords of stubbornness; his eyes are aflame with the fires of revenge; his face twitches nervously and there is the wild maniacal stare of an idiot in his facial expression. His air is indifferent. I say to him, "Tell me, friend, what brought you here? I am not asking these questions that I may embarrass you, but that I might help other mothers' boys who might be headed in the same tragic direction." The words "mothers' boys" did the trick. His face kindles as on the screen of his mind there appears the face of "Mother." The fire of his eyes is extinguished by the tears brought on by cherished memories of boyhood, the farm, the meadow, the creek, the sundown, lowing cattle, bleating sheep, neighing horses, dogs barking playfully at the cats, the smell of new-mown hay, the lengthening shadows of evening, and the tantalizing odors that drifted out of the kitchen as supper was being prepared by—"Mother." Mother, with her little print dress, simple apron, plain shoes, calloused hands that were softer than eagle's down, and with a face—oh, that face—with a face angels would have envied for innocence. He ponders, "I was once her pride and joy. She prayed with me often and taught me God's Word. She believed in me and prayed that I would grow to be useful. I have broken her heart. I have betrayed her confidence. I have digged for her a premature grave. O God!" And then he confesses, "I didn't mean to come here. I went to the city and took up with the wrong comrades. They did things that I didn't want to do, but they laughed me into doing them, too. LITTLE BY LITTLE I drifted from my mother's teachings, and LITTLE BY LITTLE I trampled down my conscience and convictions. LITTLE BY LITTLE I have come to THIS! GOD, HELP! Oh, wretched soul that I am!" Yes, this is the story behind multitudes that have "strayed." Never think, unwary one, that the adversary is content with having you commit little wrongs and cleave to dar-

ling lusts, but he has a plan for you. Those little things are only stepping stones to glaring crimes!

Abraham considered it no "little thing" when he refused the gifts offered to him by the Sodomites. He would not so much as touch a shoestring of their bribes. Christ deemed it no "little thing" when, led of the devil into Quarantania to be tempted, He firmly and flatly refused to accept the devil's offer for world dominion and riches incalculable. The Master realized the worth of "little things" when He promised that if we were faithful over a "few things" we could be ruler over many.

The number is legion today who want to play "big-shot." Personal evangelism to them is tedious work that must be left for others. They must preach to the masses. Hours spent by the bedside of the sick and discouraged are too boring for them. They like the glitter, the glare, the ostentation and fanfare of "big things." But remember, proud one, Christ healed the sick "one" at a time. He cooked "one" breakfast. He raised the dead "one" at a time. It's nice to be able to bring your donkey for Christ to ride upon, or to help distribute food to the masses, but it is a NECESSITY that Christ's sandals be unloosed and His feet bathed, else other villages that need His gospel will suffer. Remember, He took TWO FISHES and fed a multitude.

THE NEW YEAR

(Continued from page 5)

prayer lives, we shall lose our promises from God. A deep spiritual experience does not come by accident. It is the fruit of the most earnest and prayerful effort. Prayer is not an easy thing, but what great results it brings! Prayer is the mightiest force known to man. No wonder the devil tries to hinder the prayer life by bringing a dozen and one things to the mind when a person attempts to pray.

John Knox was a man famous for his power in prayer, so that "Bloody Mary" used to say she feared his prayers more than all the armies of Europe. And events show that she had reason to do so. He used to be in such an agony for the deliverance of his country that he could not sleep. He had a place in his garden where he used to pray. One night he and several friends were praying together. As they prayed, Knox spoke and said that deliverance had come. He could not tell what had happened, but he felt that something had taken place, for God had answered their prayers. Soon came the news of Mary's death. Yes, God had answered prayer.

The old year is behind us. There is nothing we can do to help the old year, but as we travel this new year, let us be studious and prayerful Christians. Let us commit our way to God, reach for His hand to guide us, and our way will be successful. The way before us is unseen. We do not know what is in store for us, but God is still on His throne and is seeking true reverence and obedience from His children. We shall not fail if we put our trust in Him.

TELEGRAM

Newport News, Va., Church of God has caught the mission spirit. We raised \$1,100 yesterday (January 11) for foreign missions.—C. J. Hester, Pastor.

FOR SALE

One Stromberg Carlson amplifier, A.C. or D.C.; two University trumpet-type speakers; one Astatic microphone and stand; one auto top carrier. This

complete set when new cost \$397. It is in good condition and I will sell it for \$200 cash.—Rev. Jim Lick, 709 West Main Street, Hugo, Oklahoma.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Western Youth Congress will be held at Santa Ana, Calif., Church of God March 25-27, 1953.

The Pacific Northwest Youth Congress will be held at Yakima, Wash., April 1-3, 1953.

The Southeastern Youth Congress will be held May 20-22 at the Charlotte, N. C., campground.

PRAYERS FOR RAIN EFFECTIVE

MERIDIAN, Miss. (EP) Members of Gilead Baptist Church held a special service here to pray for rain to relieve this drought-stricken area. On their way out they were caught in 1.31-inch downpour.



BY AVIS SWIGER

1 Thessalonians 4:11, "And that ye STUDY to be quiet, and to DO your own business, and to WORK with your own hands, as we commanded you."

IN DAYS of great physical strain and mental stress, the ordinary person will take the path of least resistance, the path that will give the greatest personal satisfaction. This path is likely to be the way of self-pity to an overburdened mother.

Am I a victim of self-pity? Let's check up a bit. Do I feel a bit of resentment when my husband goes out again for the evening, and I must stay at home? Do I ever think (of course,

I wouldn't say it), "He has all the freedom; I have all the restraint"? Do I recount my enforced responsibilities as over against his seeming lack of assuming a fair portion of the same? In short, do I feel abused?

A professor once told us in class that if we argued with ourselves for fifteen minutes in the morning about getting up, we used up as much energy as it would take to work half a day. I wonder if the same thought could not apply here—if we feel sorry for ourselves, we waste enough time and energy to do much good.

Paul admonished us to study to



MAY USE HELICOPTER TO FIND NOAH'S ARK

GREENSBORO, N. C. (EP)—Dr. Aaron J. Smith, who still dreams of finding Noah's Ark on "the mountains of Ararat," has plans for a new expedition—this time by helicopter. "A helicopter would be perfect," he said. "It would take us above the rocky crags and into hidden valleys impossible to reach on foot." Dr. Smith's previous expedition to Mt. Ararat in 1949, which failed to find the ark, drew criticism from the Russians, who charged that the expedition was a "Biblical masquerade" to spy on the Soviet Union. (Mt. Ararat is in Turkey, near the western border of Soviet Armenia.) The Russians called the clergyman an "intelligence agent of the Anglo-American bloc of imperialists."

Dr. Smith, who recently resigned as president of Southern Wesleyan Bible College at Intercession City, Fla., is

anxious to test a new theory on the ark's probable location. He now believes that the ark has been pushed into an Ararat valley by the gentle flow of lava from volcanic peaks. That is why he could not find it in 1949 and why a more recent French expedition failed, he said.

MRS. EISENHOWER REPLIES TO PRAYER CALL

CHICAGO (EP)—A call to pre-election day prayer by the Great Commission Prayer League of Chicago was sent to Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower indirectly through his wife at the request of a member of the Prayer League. Mrs. Eisenhower personally replied commanding the League, and saying that she rejoiced that so many thousands were praying for God's guidance in the election. She further said: "The General and I have always appreciated that the power of prayer is a mighty one, and it is heartwarming to know that you share that awareness." We are sure that this God-fearing attitude will be commended by all Christians and will help to stimulate prayer for them and for all in authority in our land.

work with our hands. I think he meant we should seek to find work to do—not just any work—doing our own business. Our business is making men and women out of our children. What business could be more important? Instead of seeking release from my family responsibilities, I pledge myself to study to be a better wife and mother!

GET SOMEBODY ELSE

*The Lord had a job for me,
But I had so much to do
I said, "You get somebody else,
Or wait 'till I get through."
I don't know how the Lord came out.
No doubt, He got along.
I felt kind o' sneakin' like;
I knew I'd done God wrong.*

*One day I needed the Lord,
And needed Him right away,
But He never answered me at all,
And I could hear Him say,
Down in my accusin' heart, "Child,
I've got too much to do—You
Get somebody else,
Or wait 'till I get through."*

*Now when the Lord has a job for me,
I never try to shirk;
I drop what I have on hand
And do the Lord's good work.
And my affairs can run along
Or wait 'till I get through,
'Cause nobody else can do the work
That God has for me to do.*

—Selected.

SOUTHERN BAPTISTS TO STAY WITH KING JAMES VERSION

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (EP)—The Baptist Sunday School Board plans to continue use of the King James Version as the basic text in all its publications," according to a joint statement released by Dr. T. L. Holcomb, executive secretary, Baptist Sunday School Board, and Dr. Clifton J. Allen, editorial secretary for the Board. "The blessing of God has been upon this version, so that it has brought light and life, faith and consolation, direction and inspiration and strength to countless millions of people."

FLORIDA TOWN BANS BIBLE BURNING

CRESTVIEW, Fla. (EP)—The Crestview city council passed an ordinance prohibiting burning of the Bible. Punishment for disobeying the ordinance is set at \$500 fine or 90 days in the city jail. The law was enacted when an evangelist announced he would publicly burn the new Revised Standard Version of the Bible as a sign of his dislike of the new translation.

Donations and Christmas Packages to the Church of God Orphanage

October, November, December, 1952

Lillian Threlkeld, Manila, Ark.—1 box used clothing
M. L. Christian, Haynes, N. Dak.—1 box used clothing
Rev. Wm. VanDam, New Britain, Conn.—1 box used clothing
L. Snedecor, Hammond, Ind.—1 box used clothing
Grace Grant, Barren Springs, Va.—1 box used clothing
Carmen Perez, Bronx, N. Y.—3 boxes used clothing
The Church of God, Orangeburg, S. C.—1 box used clothing
Mrs. Nellie Costa and Mrs. Irene Carter, Fernandina, Fla.—1 box used clothing
Mrs. A. V. Yancey, Cocoa, Fla.—1 box used clothing
Emma L. Lloyd, Shelburn, Ind.—1 used coat
The Church of God, care of Mrs. R. A. King, Winter Haven, Fla.—2 boxes used clothing
Box 564, Apopka, Fla.—1 box used clothing
Mrs. Amanda Elrod, Opelika, Ala.—2 boxes used clothing, dolls
Willing Workers' Band, Morristown, Tenn.—46 gifts
Sunday School, Alexandria, Va.—24 gifts
Nebraska Youth Department—31 gifts
Rev. LaVall Maguire, Applegate, Mich.—7 gifts
The Church of God, Bonham, Texas—25 gifts
The Church of God, Pine Hill, Ala.—Fruit, candy, nuts
Jack Landress and Sunday School Class, Avon Park, Fla.—7 gifts
The Church of God, Ferndale, Mich.—40 gifts
C. F. McAbee, Blacksburg, S. C.—53 gifts
Mrs. Amanda Elrod, Opelika, Ala.—29 gifts
Mrs. J. Hartman, Hershey, Pa.—5 gifts
Rev. C. W. Florence—1 box gifts
The Church of God, Corona, Calif.—31 gifts
The Church of God, Indianapolis, Ind.—120 gifts
District Youth Director, Chilhowie, Va.—45 gifts
The Church of God, Ripley, N. Y.—12 gifts
The Church of God, Beaufort, S. C.—1 box used clothing
The Church of God, Grenada, Miss.—58 gifts
Loveland Park Church, Loveland, Ohio—75 gifts
The Church of God, Augusta, Kans.—29 gifts
The Church of God, Pittsfield, Maine—16 gifts
Smiths Branch Church, Greenup, Ky.—30 gifts
The Church of God, Milton, W. Va.—Candy, nuts
Clinchfield District, Oakwood, Va.—18 gifts
Mrs. Ruby White, Shaw, Miss.—Nuts, candy
South Park Church, Birmingham, Ala.—1 box gifts
The Church of God, Staunton, Va.—13 gifts
The Church of God, Copeland, Ala.—15 gifts
Pendley Chapel Church Y.P.E., Corona, Ala.—22 gifts, candy, nuts, used clothing
Girls Intermediate Class, Walhalla, S. C.—23 gifts
Mrs. Janet Sparklin, Milford, Del.—39 gifts
The Church of God, Augusta, Maine—29 gifts
Amsons Sanford, Buffalo, S. C.—2 gifts
The Church of God, Crandon, Wisc.—1 box popcorn balls
G. D. Boatwright, Flint, Mich.—15 gifts
The Church of God, Great Falls, S. C.—18 gifts
The Church of God, Ferndale, Mich.—32 gifts
No Name Given, Laurens, S. C.—8 gifts
The Church of God, Parkersburg, W. Va.—1 box candy
C. H. Standifer, Shelburn, Ind.—4 gifts, candy, nuts
Endwell Church of God, Squire, W. Va.—7 gifts, clothing
The Church of God, Monroe, Mich.—1 gift, 3 boxes new and used clothing
Mrs. E. W. Wheeler, Hartwell, Ga.—1 box nuts
The Church of God, Perry, Fla.—1 box nuts
Rev. R. V. Dillingham, Inman, S. C.—48 gifts
The Church of God, Isaban, W. Va.—6 gifts
The Church of God, Washington, D. C.—35 gifts
Mrs. Jim King, Townsend, Tenn.—1 quilt
A Friend, Townsend, Tenn.—1 box toys
The Sunday School, Smithers, W. Va.—42 gifts
The Church of God, Loyall, Ky.—62 gifts
Mrs. C. H. Stenson, Willow City, N. Dak.—29 gifts
8th St. Church of God, Gadsden, Ala.—16 gifts
War, W. Va., District—92 gifts
The Church of God, Naples, Fla.—15 gifts
Mount Olive Church of God, Fruit-hurst, Ala.—15 gifts
Mrs. J. Osborne, San Pedro, Calif.—6 gifts
Mrs. Calvin Brown, Hodges, S. C.—5 gifts
The Church of God, Greenville, S. C.—70 gifts
The Church of God, Louisville, Tenn.—8 sacks oranges, 1 quilt, 1 bushel apples
Kerns Bakery, Knoxville, Tenn.—6 doz. cakes, 7 boxes stick candy
The Church of God, Plant City, Fla.—7 baskets oranges
The Y.P.E., Wildwood, Fla.—1 bushel oranges
The Church of God, Oakland, Calif.—73 gifts, nuts
The Church of God, Virginia Beach, Va.—5 gifts
Mrs. James W. Miller and Mrs. C. H. Thompson, Smyrna Beach, Fla.—2 gifts
Estel D. Moore, Wausau, Wisc.—1 box candy
Guy Brown, Oxford, Ohio—1 box gifts
J. R. Naples and E. C. Thomas, Charlotte, N. C.—10 lbs. candy
The Church of God, Winfield, Kans.—19 gifts, candy
The Church of God, Lincoln Center, Maine—21 gifts
The Church of God, Tallapoosa, Ga.—9 gifts, nuts, candy, Christmas cards
The Church of God, Mishawaka, Ind.—40 gifts, 11 towels, 15 washcloths
The Church of God, Reamstown, Pa.—9 new dresses, 4 pairs new hose, 11 toys, used clothing, candy
The Church of God, Pinsonfork, Ky.—29 gifts, fruit, nuts, candy
The Church of God, Olustee, Fla.—1 box candy
M. Buchanan, Clinton, Ill.—1 gift
The Church of God, Byington, Tenn.—1 box used clothing, food
The Church of God, McIntosh, S. Dak.—2 boxes candy, used clothing
The Church of God, Mobridge, S. Dak.—33 gifts
Bobbie Threlkeld, Manila, Ark.—candy, used clothing, 2 gifts
Tallahassee, Florida District—50 lbs. pecans
G. W. Johnson Coal Co., Knoxville, Tenn.—1 bushel oranges
Wolfe Dairies, Knoxville, Tenn.—83 qts. eggnog mix
The Church of God, Williamsport, Md.—67 pairs socks, 1 lot of new clothing
G. L. Bixby, West Enfield, Maine—1 box used clothing
The Church of God, Pittsfield, Maine—2 gifts
Kern's Bakery, Knoxville, Tenn.—168 cakes
Sears Roebuck & Co., Knoxville, Tenn.—432 candy canes, 170 lbs. candy, 216 activity books, large lot toys
Dick Wright Hardware Co., Knoxville, Tenn.—1 lot toys
American Legion Post 199 and Radio Station WOKE, Oak Ridge, Tenn.

The Church of God Evangel

—1 large truck load of toys and treat for each child

Lions Club, Sevierville, Tenn.—Treat for each child

The Church of God, Seaboard, Va.—13 washcloths, 2 towels, 2 pairs socks Sevier Farmers Cooperative, Sevierville, Tenn.—500 lbs. hog feed, 100 lbs. baby beef feed

The Y.P.E., Struthers, Ohio—1 box used clothing, candy, etc.

The Church of God, Crystal River, Fla.—1 basket fruit, toys

The Church of God, Arcadia, Fla.—

2 bushels oranges

Paul C. Lane, Crawfordsville, Ind.—1 wool blanket

Esel D. Moore, Wausau, Wisc.—18 gifts, new and used clothing

Bogalusa, Louisiana, District—Large lot of gifts and fruit

Everyone at our home for dependent children sends greetings and an expression of sincere appreciation for your thoughtfulness in sending this fine collection of food, clothing, and gifts.—William F. Dych, Superintendent.

Cramerton Church of God. It was the best the church has had for some time. There were 30 saved, 10 sanctified, 10 baptized with the Holy Ghost, 5 baptized in water, 5 added to the church, and 7 reclaimed, giving a total of 12. We believe we shall receive other members from this revival. It was conducted by Robert Hart and wife. Our people appreciated the ministry of Brother and Sister Hart.—H. T. Durden, Pastor.

COLLINWOOD, Tenn.—We have had a successful revival, with Rev. Clarence McDonald, of Willow Run, Michigan, as the evangelist. He was with us a week and did some wonderful preaching under the anointing of the Holy Ghost. Four were saved, 2 sanctified, and 2 filled with the Holy Ghost. Then Evangelist Wilma Gallagher, of Waynesboro, continued the revival for nearly 2 weeks. The results were 1 saved, 1 sanctified, and 2 were filled with the Holy Ghost. Pray for us here at Highland.—Mrs. W. R. Rochelle, Clerk.

ALABAMA CITY, Ala.—We wish to report a good revival, of one and a half weeks, which has just closed at our church. Eight were saved, 4 sanctified, 5 received the Holy Ghost, and 8 were added to the church. Our evangelist was Rev. Robert Jeffery, pastor of New Home Church of God at Scottsboro, Alabama. He was a real blessing to our church. Pray for us here.—Mrs. Bessie Wood, Assistant Clerk.

TELEGRAM

In midst of great revival. Five nights. Twenty-five saved, six sanctified, four received Holy Ghost. Bobby Ross, evangelist.—E. R. Heaton, Pastor, Williamson, W. Va.

ELDORADO, Ill.—A two-week revival closed here Sunday night, December 7, 1952, with Rev. W. W. Pentecost as the evangelist. Even though a larger number was not converted, the church was greatly edified. Brother Pentecost's messages on the soon coming of the Lord stirred our hearts and made us all feel our need of a deeper consecration and a holier life. Six were saved, 5 sanctified, and 3 received the Holy Ghost.

CHILHOWIE, Va.—We recently had a revival with Sister Bessie Puckett doing some wonderful preaching. God blessed in a great way, with 10 saved and 4 sanctified. Sister Puckett is a real child of God and a great preacher. We praise the Lord for her. Immediately following this revival we started a youth revival with Sister Norma Jean Attwood and Sister Nadine Rasnake as evangelists. It seemed everyone was blessed, especially the young people. At the close of this revival 3 united with the church. These evangelists are two fine, consecrated, young girls who have dedicated their lives for the cause of Christ and the salvation of souls. Any one will be blessed by getting them for a revival.—Hazel M. Thomas, Clerk.

ABBEVILLE, S. C.—We recently had a revival with Rev. and Mrs. Cecil Grant, in which 8 new members were added to the church, and the church was blessed in a marvelous way.

Our church has made steady progress in recent months. Our pastor, Brother Flemmon Ard, built an L. W. W. B. cook room, installing an electric stove, Frigidaire, and dinette suite of chrome. The Y. P. E. finished paying for the hot water heater for the parsonage and added other furnishings to the parsonage and church. Two hundred dollars was donated to the church for complete bathroom fixtures for the parsonage.

Our Sunday School has almost doubled in the last year. We thank the Lord for all His blessings, for our good pastor, his wife, and family, and for the expected blessings of next year. Pray for us here.—Othella Ramey, Reporter.

LEBANON, Tenn.—We have just had a two-week revival at the Lebanon Church of God, with Rev. F. B. Cross of Chattanooga, doing the preaching. Fifteen were saved, 13 sanctified, 9 received the baptism of the Holy Ghost, 7 were baptized in water, and 5 added to the church. The church was greatly blessed by having Brother Cross come this way.—Hazel Winfree, Reporter.

COLUMBUS, Miss.—We have had one of the greatest revivals in the history of the church here at Columbus. There were 70 saved, about 40 sanctified, 34 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 11 received into the church, with more to come in. Many people were healed of bodily afflictions, and at least 2 deaf people received their hearing. The church had been praying for weeks for a revival, and God certainly gave us an outpouring in answer to those prayers. Sister Thelma Bentley was the evangelist, and God is greatly blessing her ministry. We recommend her to any church for a meeting.—J. L. Lombard, Pastor.

LANGLEY, S. C.—The Wheelis Height Church of God, 1108 Fairview Avenue, Augusta, Georgia, started as a mission and Sunday School last November. Brother Corley bought property, after wanting it for two years, for the purpose of converting it into a church. With a great deal of work involved, the little brick building was converted into a little church, seating about 200. In July the church was set in order by the district pastor, Rev. Max L. Atkins, with 12 members. Now the property is all paid for and belongs to the Church of God. We are making plans to build a new church. We have grown in every department and have 30 members. The church is self-supporting and is one of the most spiritual churches on the district. We give God the glory for it all.

We recently closed a successful revival, with Evangelist Edna Alderman doing the preaching. The presence of the Lord was felt in every service, and many lost souls were saved and several were healed. The Christians were drawn closer to the Lord, and sinners were convicted.—Reporter.

GASTONIA, N. C., DISTRICT—Our district has been greatly blessed by the ministry of Rev. and Mrs. Rena Mahoe, of San Diego, California. They began revivals on our district Sept. 14, 1952, and continued through November 30. There have been 45 saved, 16 sanctified, 7 filled with the Holy Ghost, 3 baptized in water, and 14 added to the church.

Brother and Sister Mahoe have assisted the pastors on the district in raising their mission quotas. They have been successful in raising \$950.

The mission offering in our recent district convention was more than \$3,200, for which we are very thankful.—H. T. Durden, District Overseer.

CRAMERTON, N. C.—We have just had a very successful revival at the

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